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UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 JERUSALEM 002786

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE

NEA FOR FO; NEA/SA/EX FOR AUSTIN-FERGUSON; DEPT FOR  
DS/IP/ITA; DEPT FOR DS/IP/NEA; NSC FOR ABRAMS/DANIN

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [PTER](#) [PBTS](#) [PHUM](#) [KWBG](#) [KPAL](#) [IS](#) [ASEC](#)

SUBJECT: WB/G SITREP: JULY 01, 2005 (1800 HOURS LOCAL) --  
FIVE PALESTINIANS AND ONE ISRAELI SOLDIER INJURED DURING  
IDF INCURSION INTO NABLUS; CLASHES CONTINUE AT AL-MOWASSI

1. (SBU) SUMMARY: Five Palestinians and one IDF soldier were lightly wounded June 30 in Nablus during an IDF incursion in response to reports, ultimately unfounded, that two soldiers had been kidnapped. UNRWA and Israeli media reported that disengagement opponents in the al-Mowassi area of Gaza attacked Palestinians waiting to cross into al-Mowassi at Toufah June 30, and demonstrated on the Kissufim Road the same day. A Palestinian boy age five and another age 14 were shot and wounded June 29 when IDF soldiers opened fire in response to a mortar attack on Neve Dekalim. A Gay Pride parade in Jerusalem June 30 was interrupted when a knife-wielding Orthodox youth attacked marchers. END SUMMARY.

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West Bank  
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2. (SBU) ATTACKS:

-- Deaths: Nil.

-- Injury: On June 30, Palestinian sources reported that five Palestinians and one IDF soldier were lightly wounded in Nablus during an IDF incursion sent in response to reports that two soldiers had been kidnapped. The IDF later released a statement confirming that it no longer believed any soldiers were missing.

-- Security Incidents: Palestinian sources reported that a taxi overturned after being stoned by settlers in Burin village, outside Nablus, on June 30. Five passengers were moderately injured as a result.

-- Arrests: Palestinian press reported that one Palestinian Islamic Jihad member was arrested in Ramallah on June 30.

-- Arrests: Palestinian security sources reported that five Palestinians were arrested in northern Ramallah while preparing to throw firebombs at IDF forces on the afternoon of June 30.

-- Security Incidents: In Ramadin village near Hebron, clashes erupted between protesters against the separation barrier and IDF forces. According to Palestinian media reports, seven protesters were lightly wounded when the IDF fired on them with rubber-coated bullets and tear gas.

-- Security Incidents: Palestinian security sources reported that two members of the PA Preventive Security Organization, were jailed last week for shooting at Fatah Central Committee member Hani al-Hasan, s bodyguard, escaped from jail June 30.

3. (SBU) POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS:

-- The Fatah Central Committee meeting continued in Amman July 1. According to press and local sources, Faruq Qaddumi rejected an appointment as deputy chairman of the PLO and vice-president of Palestine (the virtual state declared by Arafat in 1988). President Abbas and Qaddumi agreed that that both would authorize the appointment of PA ambassadors, although the PA would take the lead in the process.

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Gaza  
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4. (SBU) ATTACKS:

-- Death: Nil.

-- Catch-up Item: Injuries: UNRWA reported that a Palestinian boy age five and another age 14 were shot and wounded June 29 when IDF soldiers opened fire in response to a mortar attack on Neve Dekalim.

-- Riots/Arrests/Closure: UNRWA and Israeli media reported that disengagement opponents in the al-Mowassi area of Gaza attacked Palestinians waiting to cross into al-Mowassi at

Toufah June 30, and demonstrated on the Kissufim Road the same day. No injuries were reported. The IDF, also on June 30, forcibly evacuated settlers from a hotel near Neve Dekalim, and declared the Gaza Strip a closed military zone to non-resident Israelis (Palestinians and internationals were still, however, able to move in and out of Gaza). The Gaza closure was lifted for people July 1, but the IDF prohibited Israelis from bringing in goods or construction materials that might contribute to outpost establishment or imply a long-term stay by non-residents. Israeli media reported that IDF construction units were working July 1 to repair damage to the formerly-occupied Palestinian home.

-- Mortars/Rockets: The IDF reported that Palestinian militants launched a total of nine mortar shells at southern Gaza settlements and IDF outposts overnight June 30-July 1. UNRWA reported a total of 14 mortar shells and homemade rockets fired at settlements during the same period.

-- Mortars/Rockets: Israeli media and UNRWA reported that militants fired one Qassam rocket at Sderot July 1. No injuries were reported.

-- Explosions: UNRWA reported that IDF soldiers found and safely disposed of a 40-kilogram explosive device near the border fence with Egypt, to the east of Rafah Terminal. Rafah was closed for several hours the morning of June 30, until the IED was disposed of.

#### 15. (SBU) BORDER CROSSINGS:

-- Route Four (Salahadeen Road), the main north-south traffic artery, was open July 1, with a major detour at Netzarim Junction.

-- Erez Crossing was open June 30, and 4,200 laborers and 505 merchants crossed into Israel.

-- The Erez Industrial Zone was open June 30, and 600 laborers entered.

-- Sufa Crossing was closed for Palestinian laborers July 1, but was open for the import of aggregates used in construction.

-- Karni Terminal was open July 1.

-- Rafah was open July 1 for both arrivals and departures. Palestinians reported that only 100 or so Palestinians per day are allowed to move each way and that there is a backlog of some 1,000-2,000 people waiting to cross

-- Tel al-Sultan checkpoint was closed July 1. Toufah checkpoint was open for residents of al-Mowassi, except males aged 16-30, except for several hours in the morning when settlers attacked a group of Palestinians waiting to cross. The IDF brought the situation under control and re-opened the checkpoint.

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Jerusalem  
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#### 16. (SBU) ATTACKS:

-- Injury: The Jerusalem Gay Pride parade on June 30 was marred by violence when a Haredi youth stabbed three marchers. Several other gay pride activists were pelted with bags of urine and feces.  
PEARCE